Section 100 – App E LEM Clarification/Interpretation Request Form

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LEM Chapter/ Discipline: All

Section(s): LEM chapters 2-7, typically in their Section 201, *General*; LCSM Section 01720, *Project Record Documents*; LANL Work Smart Standards.

Petitioner(s): Myron Koop, PM-DS (SCC Project)

Inquiry: For a design-build project, must the as-builts be sealed (stamped) by the AE?

Existing wording:

Most chapters invoke the New Mexico Engineering and Surveying Practice Act (NMSA 1978, Chapter 61, Article 23) or NM Architectural Act. They typically include the sealing requirement from the Acts, e.g. "...All plans, designs, drawings, specifications or reports that are involved in such practice, issued by or for the practice, shall bear the seal and signature of a professional engineer in responsible charge of and directly responsible for the work issued."

Section 01720 includes requirements for red-lining documents but doesn't address signing/sealing.

Clarification ___ Interpretation __X_

No. While the LANL Engineering and Construction Specification Manuals do not specifically address as-built sealing, conversations about the NMSA and its intent with DOE peers and others suggests AEs will not nor should not normally seal as-built information provided by another (i.e., the Contractor) unless they have complete knowledge of the work (e.g., acted as the job inspector).

Further Discussion

The PE must be in "responsible charge" of any work product they seal/sign. Responsible charge is usually defined as directing the work, making the decisions, and reviewing the final product. Merely reviewing the work does not suffice. State law requires sealing all drawings issued by the AE that are wholly his product. However, red-lines done by a contractor are often not wholly the AE's product. If an AE merely incorporates Contractor's red-lines, then AE should sign the revision but need not seal. If the build team's AE is responsible for 100% inspection and as-builting, then the AE should seal.

NOTE: This Interpretation only addresses official LANL Standards requirements and the Act. Project-specific specifications may exceed these. For example, some project Section 01720s state "Transpose all record information onto electronic media and provide stamped, dated and signed Final Record Drawings..." This could be interpreted by the Project Manager as requiring seals on as-builts.

Distribution (via e-mail):

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